WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Increase in Prices of Maruti Vehicles

*1. SHRI J. P. GOYAL: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whethed it is a fact that the Maruti Udyog Limited has again increased the prices of various types of vehicles manufactured by it;

(b) if so, what is the extent of price increase made in respect of each type of vehicle and the reasons therefor;

(c) what shall be the net resultant additional burden on the purchasers of these vehicles;

(d) what was the price of each type of vehicle when it was first introduced; in the market;

(e) how many times the price has been increased so far indicating the extent of price-rise made each time in respect of each type of vehicle; and

(f) what is Government's policy in regard thereto?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The price rise became necessary because of increase in statutory levies and appreciation of Yen against rupee and US dollar. The extent of increase in ex-factory price of Maruti vehicles (inclusive of excise duty & dealer's commission) at different dates has been as follows:—

(In Rs.)

Vehicle	Price rise on			
	1-4-85	28-3-86	4-6-86	14-3-87
Car Std				
Blue & White	2,450*	7,150	6,800	7,650
Red, Brown & Green	3,200*	7,150	6,050	7,650
Car Deluxe	450	5,550	8,800	8,850
Van Flat Roof				
Blue & White	7,000	7,000	6,000	4,950
Red, Brown & Green	7,750	7,000	5,250	4,950
Van High Roof				
Blue & White	7,000	6,850	5,800	5,550
Red Brown & Green	7,750	6,850	5,050	5,550
Gypsy	..	3,100	7,900	6,650

*Here Rs. 450 is because of the inclusion of Steering Lock.

(c) This will vary from State to State depending on rates of local taxes and insurance.

(d) The ex-factory price of various Maruti vehicles at the time of their introduction in the market was as follows:

Vehicle	Ex-Factory Price
	Rs.
Car Standard	47,500 00
Car Deluxe	79,000 00
Van Flat Roof	47,500.00
Van High Roof	49,250.00
Gypsy	83,900.00

(f) Whereas there is no statutory control on the prices of vehicles, Maruti Udyog Limited try to determine the prices of their vehicles taking into consideration all relevant commercial factors.

Security Deposits against LPG Cylinders

*2. SHRI MUKHTIAR SINGH MALIK:

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that crores of rupees have been collected towards security deposit against supply of LPG cylinders from the customers by Hindustan Petroleum Corporation, Bharat Petroleum Corporation and Indian Oil Corporation on which the customers are not entitled to any interest; and

(b) whether Government propose to pay interest at least at the bank rate to the customers against their deposits and if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BRAHM DUTT): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Interest on the one time security deposit is neither being nor proposed to be paid by the oil companies in view of the investment required to be made from time to time to replace, repair and maintain the cylinders, and the expenditure on facilities relating to inspection, testing, research and development etc.

Super Thermal Power Station in Maharashtra

*3. SHRI NARESH C. PUGLIA: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to refer to Unstarred Question 2612 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 1st December, 1986 and state:

(a) whether the proposal for setting up a Super Thermal Power Station of 1000 MW capacity at Chandarpur, Maharashtra has since been cleared by the Central Government;

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard; and

(c) if the reply to (a) above be in the negative, what are the reasons for the delay?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI): (a) The National Thermal Power Corporation is preparing a feasibility report for setting up a Super Thermal Power Project of 1000 MW capacity at Chandrapur in Maharashtra.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The project is not included in the Seventh Plan. The proposal will be considered by the Government only after the techno-economic viability of the project has been established by the Central Electricity Authority. Preparation of a feasibility report is a time consuming exercise and no delay can be said to have occurred.